

September News for 3 Year-Old Classes

Another exciting year is on the horizon at Camp Crayon. We are excited to meet all the brand new Campers and siblings of past Campers. If you are new to our program, please introduce yourself to our staff. Miss Debbie Foerster is the Program Supervisor. Instructors include: Miss Theresa Kovach (*Lead Instructor*), Miss Kathy Cleven, Miss Stephanie Pedersen and Miss Laura Roby. We welcome aboard the newest members of our staff: Miss Cathie Hackeloer and Miss Bernadette Rowe, our substitutes. You will see them the first two weeks of Camp and then as they fill in for other staff members throughout the year.

KEEPING THE CHILDREN SAFE: The safety of all the children in our Camp Crayon Program is uppermost in our minds. When entering and exiting the building, please use the entrance on the south side of the building, as our front door will be gated from the inside. Parking is available on the street in the front of the building and there is a small parking lot to the south of the building. Remember to sign your child in and out everyday.

END OF THE CAMP DAY: Our day will usually end with **Dance Time** or **Story Time**. We invite you to come back to Camp a little early (10:50 a.m.) and we will unlock our door so you may enter to watch them dance or listen to the end of their story. Please be sure to keep voices down as not to disturb the group.

NAME ON PERSONAL BELONGINGS: Please make sure that your child's backpack, purse, jacket, boots, etc. are labeled with his or her first and last names. Within the first two weeks, we will have the names of all the children on their cubby tray. Once this is done, your child's belongings should always be put into his or her personal cubby, or their hook in the hallway. At the end of the day, please enter the building to sign your child out for the day. Once our dance time or story time is over, please get in the habit of checking the cubby area for completed projects, important announcements, etc.

SNACKS: Our snack sign up sheet will be posted on the doors above the sign in table. We ask that two people sign up to bring a snack each day. Please send healthy snacks and also snacks that are as mess free as possible. Please see the hand-out titled "Snack Suggestions" for healthy snack choices. Due to the growing number of children with nut allergies, we ask that you avoid sending snacks that contain: nuts, nut oil, nut flour or any peanut products. **Big, frosted cupcakes and cakes** are not the best choice for snack time at Camp. You cannot imagine the mess it creates in a group situation and many children do not eat them. We understand that birthdays are special occasions and if you want to send a sweet treat, good alternatives are ice cream cups, small frosted cupcakes or muffins.

SPECIAL EVENTS – MORE NEWS WILL FOLLOW: Our special events that will be held throughout the year are: Picture Day (Friday, October 15), Halloween parties, Thanksgiving Feast, Christmas Parties, Valentine Parties and a Spring program. As each of these events rolls around there will be more information sent home.

THEME DAYS: One day a month will be a theme day. Everything we do will revolve around one particular theme. Teddy Bears are the theme for September 29 & 30. Please have your child bring a Teddy Bear to class on that day. Bring only **one** bear per child and refrain from bringing other favorite animals or dolls as they would not fit in with our theme. If your child does not have a Teddy Bear we will have extra ones available. All theme days will be listed on our snack sign up sheet. If you sign up to bring snack on a theme day, please be sure it coordinates with our theme. We hope your child enjoys these special days.

PICTURE DAY: A professional photographer will come to the **Parks Building** to photograph our preschool classes. We have contracted with Mitchell Studios to photograph all five of our classes. We have used them for many years and are always very satisfied with the final results. We think you will be pleased also. Please mark your calendars now for **FRIDAY, OCTOBER 15**. This is not a regular attendance day; you will have to bring your child just for the purpose of having their photo taken. Times are: Monday/Wednesday class will begin photos at noon and the Tuesday/Thursday class will begin at 1:00 p.m. The group shot will be done first, followed by individual photos. Your child may leave as soon as his/her individual photo has been taken. More information will follow in the October Newsletter, but we wanted to give you the date and times now so you can make arrangements to attend.

PAYMENT: Payment is due on or before the first day of each new session. Your checks should be made payable to the Village of Antioch. The cost is \$95 (Antioch Residents) and \$115 (Non-Residents). These prices apply to the first 4 sessions **ONLY**. The fifth session is slightly different for both classes. Please see the hand-out titled “**Session Dates and Payment Information**” for the fifth session payments.

EXTRA CLOTHING IN BACKPACKS: All children should be fully toilet trained before beginning Camp Crayon. In the case of an occasional accident, we immediately check your child’s backpack for a change of clothing. We keep extra clothing on hand, but children prefer clothing that belongs to them. We have found that if you place these items in the backpack, we will probably never have to use them!

NEW THIS YEAR: Lunch and Learn classes will begin in October and are held on Tuesday’s and Wednesday’s from 11:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. Registration is open to not only Camp Crayon students, but the entire community. If you are interested in having your child attend, we recommend you register your child soon. For more information refer to the hand-out titled “Session Dates and Payment Information” or ask any staff member about the new and exciting cooking, artistry and science classes!

NEWSLETTERS ON WEBSITE: You can view Camp Crayon monthly newsletters on the Village website: www.antioch.il.gov. Click on Departments and then click on Parks. Newsletters for the three and four year-old classes will be in the left hand column.

USE OF E-MAIL FOR CLASSROOM UPDATES: You may ask your child “What did you do today?” at the end of class and their answers may not always be easy to understand or they may not answer at all. To help communicate to you what we did during class time we would like to send weekly classroom updates via e-mail. Please be sure that we have your correct e-mail address and we will send you the details of our week together.

TALK TO US: Feel free to talk with any member of our staff with any questions, comments or concerns. Our phone number is 847-395-2191. The phone number for the Parks & Recreation Department is 847-395-2160. The Parks & Recreation classroom is 847-838-4330.

Thank You and Enjoy the Year!
The Camp Crayon Staff